

Delaware Medicare Assistance Bureau Releases Delaware Medicare Supplement Insurance Shopper's Guide 2017

Dover, DE—The Delaware Medicare Assistance Bureau (DMAB) is pleased to announce that the *2017 Delaware Medicare Supplement Insurance Shopper's Guide* is now available in print. This popular guide is updated annually and includes price comparisons and toll-free telephone numbers for all Medigap policies sold in Delaware. Medicare supplement insurance, also called Medigap, is private insurance designed to supplement your Medicare coverage. The guide is also available at any time on the DMAB website, www.insurance.delaware.gov/dmab.

While reviewing the rates on the Medigap plans in the 2017 guide, keep in mind that your gender and status as a smoker/non-smoker will directly affect your premiums. Please also be aware that listed rates may change during the year. It is recommended that you contact at least two or three companies directly and seek quotes to find the plan that provides you with the best value. It is important to note that the best time to purchase a Medigap policy is during your 6-month Medigap open enrollment. This period automatically starts the month you're 65 or older and enrolled in Medicare Part B, and once it's over, you can't get it again. After six months have passed, companies selling these plans are not required to sell you a policy and may underwrite you.

While Medicare is a federal program, DMAB can help Delawareans with Medicare make sense of the complex health insurance system. All DMAB services are completely free. DMAB staff can assist with questions related to Medicare, Medigap, long-term care, and related financial assistance programs. Call DMAB at

1-800-336-9500 to receive a guide or to get help with your Medicare questions. Additional resources related to Medicare are available at www.insurance.delaware.gov/dmab.

###

The Delaware Department of Insurance protects Delawareans through regulation and education while providing oversight of the insurance industry to best serve the public.

Delaware Department of Insurance

<http://www.insurance.delaware.gov>

Dover Office: 302-674-7300

Consumer Services Division: 1-800-282-8611